

Morales represented the Guadalupe District at the State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas' conference in San Marcos earlier this summer. His district nominated him for Texas Firefighter of the Year before the conference, and he was interviewed by a panel of judges which selected him for the award.

Chief Morales has had a substantial positive impact on his community, dedicating his life to serving the city of Goliad and its surrounding county, and will undoubtedly continue to do so for years to come. I rise today to congratulate Chief Alonzo Morales for being honored as the Texas Firefighter of the Year.

CPL. EDWARD LEE BORDERS

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and tell the story of Army Reserve Corporal Edward Lee Borders, a soldier who gave his life for this country in the Korean War.

Cpl. Borders served as a member of D Battery, 82nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, supporting South Korean Army attacks against units of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF). On February 11, 1951, the DPAA report shows that the CPVF was able to force the South Koreans to withdraw and leave the Support Force 21, which included Borders' unit, behind at Changbong-ni.

Cpl. Borders was reported as missing in action on February 13, 1951, when he did not report with his unit in Wonju. Three years later, he was declared dead, but his body was never identified. Cpl. Border's father put up a monument in a Harrisburg, Illinois cemetery with the hope of someday laying his son to rest.

For 66 years, the family could not glean any further information, despite consistent investigations from Borders' father and stepmother. However, recently Army Reserve Cpl. Edward Lee Borders' body was finally identified from the remains returned to the United States from North Korea between 1990 and 1994. Per his family's request, his remains are returning home to Illinois. After receiving plane-side honors, Cpl. Borders will be escorted to his final resting place by an honor guard and members of the Patriot Riders.

The Borders family will bury Cpl. Borders on July 29 in Harrisburg, Illinois, where he will receive a service with full military honors. Finally, the Borders family will be able to honor Army Reserve Cpl. Edward Lee Borders by laying him to rest at the monument placed in his name, thereby fulfilling the 66-year-old wish of a father to bury his son.

I am proud to acknowledge the Borders family for their love for our country and their family, and I thank Cpl. Edward Lee Borders for his service and his sacrifice.

RECOGNIZING MS. MAY LIANG MUI  
AND MR. BAITON YAN

### HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Ms. May Liang Mui and Mr. Baitong Yan on their upcoming 2017 "No-Boundaries" International Art Exhibition.

A non-profit exhibition held annually, "No-Boundaries" harnesses the power of art and art education to promote social responsibility among students who hail from all corners of the globe. During this event, students have the opportunity to work alongside professional artists and cultivate a project that fuses art, culture and global human rights.

Held at the United Nations (UN) in New York City, UN officials will present awards to outstanding young art students. Taken to prove that art truly has no boundaries, students of all different backgrounds will gather to traverse cultural barriers and express themselves through art.

I applaud all those involved in organizing such a rich cultural event right in the center of New York City. I extend my best wishes for a successful and inspiring exhibition.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MR.  
RYSZARD "RICHARD" LABA

### HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ryszard "Richard" Laba, a longtime resident of Northbridge, Massachusetts who served as a United States Army Military Policeman in Vietnam.

Mr. Laba was born in Poland and moved to the United States at 16 to live with his brother in Worcester, Massachusetts. At 21, he was drafted into the Army and served honorably in Vietnam between 1967 and 1969. Wounded in combat and exposed to the dangerous chemical Agent Orange, Mr. Laba returned home to Massachusetts.

Back home, Mr. Laba was a hard worker and a family man who loved his community. He served as an assistant foreman at the Worcester Gear Company for 39 years, retiring in 2003. He passed away on September 10, 2012 at the age of 66. He is survived by his wife Margaret, who has worked tirelessly to raise awareness about Vietnam veterans, like her husband, who have experienced the debilitating effects of Agent Orange.

Mr. Laba may not have been born an American, but he was so proud of his adopted country. His selflessness is an example for all who aspire to public service.

Mr. Speaker, while we cannot change the past, we can make every effort to express our most sincere gratitude to all Vietnam veterans and their families that are with us today.

On behalf of the people of Massachusetts, please join me in extending my deepest thanks to Richard Laba for his courageous service to our country. It is imperative that we continue to remind future generations of the character and integrity of those who served

during the Vietnam War. I know my House colleagues will join me in remembering Richard, along with all those who served with him in Vietnam.

INTRODUCING THE INTERSTATE  
TEACHING MOBILITY ACT

### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to re-introduce the bipartisan Interstate Teaching Mobility Act. This broadly supported and bipartisan proposal would authorize the Secretary of Education to work with an outside entity to create a voluntary, interstate teacher licensing program that would allow eligible teachers to transfer their licenses between states.

Our country's systems of teacher licensure create problems for teachers, students, and schools alike. Licensing and certification requirements for teachers are inconsistent from state to state, and even within states, with hundreds of licensure tests in use and other requirements varying substantially. The level of rigor is also highly variable—with the bar far too low in many cases. As a result of these differences, the majority of states do not accept out-of-state teaching credentials.

For teachers, this poses clear obstacles. A teacher licensed in one state who wishes to teach in another may have to complete additional requirements, such as exams or coursework, or pay additional fees, even if he has already completed an approved credentialing program or has a strong teaching record. As our nation's workforce becomes increasingly mobile, these requirements dramatically decrease the mobility of our nation's teaching workforce. For military spouses, who frequently relocate—among whom teaching is the second most common profession—or out-of-state college graduates wishing to teach in their home state, this problem is particularly acute. These roadblocks likely deter many prospective teachers from entering this vital profession.

The system also presents a real problem for school districts, as schools across the country face a growing teacher shortage. Across the board, teacher education enrollment dropped 35 percent from 2009 to 2014; however, the types of shortages vary across states. Limited licensure policies make it even more difficult for school administrators to fill teaching positions—and for students, the consequence results in less access to high-quality teachers.

The Interstate Teaching Mobility Act would direct the Department of Education to create a new, voluntary program for states to participate in an interstate teaching application process. Teachers licensed or certified in one participating state would be eligible to teach in another. A participating state would be required to adhere to standards of content knowledge, pedagogical assessment, and performance assessment identified as sufficiently rigorous by an outside organization. This would ensure high standards for our teachers, while maintaining the essential role of the states in setting specific requirements for teaching in the state or obtaining licenses in the state.